

luxuries for doctors in fear of ill-health for railway companies and theatres to gain change and variety for charities to satisfy the kindness of our hearts. To satisfy feelings of cruelty we may patronize very barbarous entertainments. What will men not pay for titles for steps on the social ladder which gratify their ambition or vanity! There are baser instincts which may be worked upon by those who can exploit the depths of human nature. So wealth is appropriated and men grow rich by successful appeals to the desires of others. But it does not follow that society is corrupt. Excepting the passion for cruelty, there is no class of impulses which are harmful in themselves: any injury which they may cause to individuals or to society proceeds from the means that are adopted for their satisfaction. We may reasonably sympathize with a desire for variety whilst strongly deprecating its satisfaction by drink.

Riches are then gained by the possession of some special advantage which enables us to satisfy the impulses of others. Industry itself is no such advantage: it is possessed by thousands of workmen who are individually of no particular value to their employer and are thus unable to demand from him a full share of the proceeds of their labour. In these days the greatest advantage is wealth and a cynic may take a gloomy view of our relationships. For wealth attracts wealth and social inequalities must tend to

increase unless
the process is checked by law. There
are, of
course, other advantages. Skill and
intelligence
will enable a workman to demand
higher wages.
Birth gives advantages : less in the
present time
than formerly. Talent is of service : so
also are
high educational qualifications. but
these are
obtained by the expenditure of money.
and have
generally been unattainable except
by the rich.